

Message Text

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ORIGIN COA-02

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DRAFTED BY COA:RTLEROY:MJB

APPROVED BY COA- BURDICK H. BRITTIN

EUR/IB - MR. MCCOWN (SUB)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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TAGS: OCLR, TGEN, CGEN, MR, SS, SG

SUBJECT: CUEA EXPERIMENT - WEST AFRICAN COAST.

REF: STATE 160055

1. COASTAL UPWELLING ECOSYSTEMS ANALYSIS NATIONAL COORDINATION CENTER (CUEANCC) HAS DISCUSSED SEVERAL PROBLEMS WITH DEPT, AS OUTLINED BELOW. APPROPRIATE CORRESPONDENCE AND INFO HAS BEEN POUCHED TO POSTS.

2. CONSULAR AGENT LAS PALMAS HAS BEEN MOST HELPFUL AND IT IS OBVIOUS CONTINUED COOPERATION ESSENTIAL TO SUCCESS OF PROGRAM. MARTIN HAS INTRODUCED CUEANCC PERSONNEL TO SPANISH NAVAL COMMANDER, CANARY ISLAND AREA, WHO APPEARED QUITE WILLING TO ASSIST BUT HAD NOT, AT THAT TIME, RECEIVED ANY WORD FROM GOS ON EXPERIMENT. THIS OMISSION POSSIBLY DUE FACT LAS PALMAS WAS MENTIONED REFTEL IN CONTEXT OF PORT CALL ONLY, WITH WORK TAKING PLACE OFF SPANISH SAHARA COAST. IN FACT, LAS PALMAS PERFORCE WILL BE LOGISTIC SUPPORT BASE FOR EXPERIMENT, WITH SMALL OFFICE ESTABLISHED

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TO COORDINATE SCIENTIFIC EFFORTS AND PERFORM SOME PRELIMIN-

ARY DATA REDUCTION/PROCESSING. IF EMBASSY COULD TACTFULLY SUGGEST THAT LAS PALMAS NAVAL COMMANDER BE PUT INTO PICTURE, PROGRAM DIRECTORS BELIEVE HE COULD BE VERY HELPFUL.

3. THE EXPERIMENT WILL INVOLVE TRANSFER BETWEEN USG R/V'S OF BOTH SCIENTISTS AND SOME OF THEIR EQUIPMENT. MOST WILL BE DIRECT VESSEL TO VESSEL SWAPS, BUT SOME SHIPS WILL NOT CALL SIMULTANEOUSLY AND GEAR MIGHT HAVE TO BE MOVED ASHORE FOR SHORT TERM WHAREHOUSING. NONE OF IT WILL BE SOLD OR LEFT IN COUNTRY. TRANSFER OF EQUIPMENT BETWEEN SHIPS MAY ALSO INVOLVE FRENCH AND/OR SPANISH VESSELS. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SHORE BASED SUPPORT FACILITY (INVOLVING A DOZEN OR FEWER PEOPLE) WILL REQUIRE OFFICE EQUIPMENT. WHILE MUCH CAN AND PROBABLY WILL BE RENTED ASHORE, CUEANCC GROUP WISHES TO BRING IN THEIR OWN MINI COMPUTER (DEC PDP 11/20), SATELLITE FAX RECEIVER, AND XEROX COPIER. THIS GEAR WOULD ALSO BE REMOVED BY SHIP UPON COMPLETION OF THE EXPERIMENT. WE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF EMBASSY COULD DETERMINE WHAT CUSTOM ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE TO ELIMINATE OR MINIMIZE CHARGES AND PAPERWORK. IT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR CUSTOMS CHARGES TO BE WAIVED IN SUCH A SITUATION.

4. CUEANCC PERSONNEL WILL ARRIVE LAS PALMAS LATE OCTOBER AND WILL SCOUT SPANISH SAHARA COAST WHILE THERE, TRYING TO LOCATE SUITABLE SITES FOR INSTALLATION OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATION POSTS. SEVERAL INSTRUMENT PACKAGES WILL BE SET UP; RECORDING DATA AUTOMATICALLY, THEY OPERATE UNATTENDED. CUEA WILL HAVE OWN PEOPLE PERIODICALLY SERVICING THEM, AND REMOVING RECORDS. THEIR AGENTS, ECOPESA, HAVE ADVISED THEM THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL SPANISH ARMY POSTS ALONG THE COAST THAT MIGHT MAKE GOOD LOCATIONS. CUEA DOES NOT SEEK ASSISTANCE OR SUPPORT, OTHER THAN HAVING SOMEONE KEEP WATCH ON EQUIPMENT TO AVOID VANDALISM. EMBASSY SHOULD DISCUSS THIS ASPECT PROBLEM WITH GOS.

5. ANY INFO POST CAN SUPPLY WITH REGARD TO ABOVE WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IF RECEIVED BEFORE OCTOBER 27 DEPARTURE OF CUEANCC GROUP. DRS. ROBERT SMITH, RICHARD DUGDALE, UNCLASSIFIED

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RICHARD BARBER, DALE PILLSBURY AND MR. LYNN SHERRETZ WILL BE ARRIVING LAS PALMAS OCTOBER 28. ONE OR MORE OF GROUP WILL BE IN MAURITANIA ABOUT OCTOBER 30. DR. BARBER WILL POSSIBLY CALL MADRID POST NOVEMBER 5 THRU 9, DEPT WILL NOTIFY EMBASSY AS TRAVEL PLANS ARE FIRMED UP. KISSINGER

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